

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method ~~by a server~~ of transmitting pass/fail information indicating whether an examinee has passed or failed an exam to an examinee terminal of ~~said~~ the examinee via a network, the method performed by a server, comprising ~~the steps of:~~

transmitting ~~a confirmation~~ an inquiry mail to ~~said the~~ examinee terminal asking whether to require ~~said the~~ pass/fail information;

receiving a response mail ~~returned by said from the~~ examinee terminal in ~~response to~~ said confirmation responding to the inquiry mail;

recording reception time at which ~~said the~~ server receives ~~said the~~ response mail;

determining, based on ~~said the~~ reception time, a transmission order ~~by in~~ which ~~to~~ transmit ~~to said examinee terminal~~ a pass/fail information address in ~~said the~~ network at which ~~said the~~ pass/fail information is located is transmitted to the examinee terminal;

monitoring server load of the server; and

transmitting ~~said the~~ pass/fail information address to examinee terminals of a predetermined number of ~~said examinee terminals~~ examinees including the examinee depending on ~~said the~~ determined transmission order and ~~a the monitored~~ server load value indicating ~~a load on said server and/or said network~~.

2. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising ~~the steps of:~~

receiving a transmission request for transmitting ~~said the~~ pass/fail information transmitted from ~~said the~~ examinee terminal, ~~said the~~ transmission request based on ~~said the~~ pass/fail information address; and

transmitting ~~said the~~ pass/fail information in response to ~~said the~~ transmission request.

3. (Currently Amended) A method ~~by a server~~ of transmitting pass/fail information indicating whether ~~an a particular~~ examinee has passed or failed an exam to an examinee terminal of ~~said the particular~~ examinee via a network, the method performed by a server, comprising ~~the steps of:~~

receiving a transmission request for transmitting ~~said the~~ pass/fail information transmitted from ~~said the~~ examinee terminal, ~~said the~~ transmission request based on a pass/fail information address in ~~said the~~ network at which ~~said the~~ pass/fail information is located; and

transmitting, in response to reception of said the transmission request, ~~a plurality of~~ examinee ID numbers of a plurality of passing examinees around ~~an examinee ID number of~~ said the particular examinee.

4. (Currently Amended) A method ~~by a server of~~ transmitting pass/fail information indicating whether ~~an~~ a particular examinee ~~among a plurality of examinees~~ has passed or failed an exam to an examinee terminal of said ~~the particular~~ examinee via a network, the method performed by a server, comprising the steps of:

transmitting to said ~~the~~ examinee terminal an enquiry ~~to said examinee~~ asking whether said the particular examinee wishes to disclose said pass/fail information to other examinees;

receiving a response ~~by said examinee terminal to said the~~ transmitted enquiry from the examiner terminal;

grouping, based on profile information of the plurality of examinees, forming a group of examinees whose responses indicate a who wish to disclose said their pass/fail information to other examinees, based on profile information of the examinees, the group including the particular examinee; and

transmitting pass/fail information of the ~~grouped examinees of the group to said the~~ examinee ~~terminals of the grouped examinees~~ terminal of the particular examinee.

5. (Currently Amended) A transmitting apparatus ~~of~~ transmitting pass/fail information indicating whether an examinee has passed or failed an exam to an examinee terminal of the examinee via a network, comprising:

a transmitting unit that transmits ~~a confirmation~~ an inquiry mail to said ~~the~~ examinee terminal asking whether to require said the pass/fail information;

a receiving unit that receives a response mail ~~returned by said from the~~ examinee terminal ~~in response to said confirmation~~ responding to the inquiry mail;

a determining unit that records reception time at which said the response mail is received and determines, based on said reception time, ~~a transmission order by in which to transmit to said examinee terminal a pass/fail information address at which said the pass/fail information is located~~ is transmitted to the examinee terminal;

a monitoring unit that monitors load of the transmitting apparatus; and

a transmitting unit that transmits said ~~the~~ pass/fail information address to examinee terminals of a predetermined number of said examinee terminals examinees including the examiner depending on said the determined transmission order by the determination unit and a

the monitored load value indicating a load on said transmitting apparatus.

6. (Currently Amended) The transmitting apparatus as ~~set forth~~ claimed in claim 5, wherein the transmitting unit transmits ~~said the~~ the pass/fail information address to the examinee terminals of the predetermined number of ~~examinee terminals~~ examinees when the load value indicating ~~the load on said~~ of the transmitting apparatus is less than a predetermined value.

7. (Currently Amended) A computer program that causes a computer to function as:
a transmitting unit that transmits a ~~confirmation~~ an inquiry mail to ~~an the~~ the examinee terminal ~~used by an examinee~~ asking whether ~~said examinee requires~~ to require the pass/fail information ~~indicating whether said examinee has passed or failed an exam;~~

a receiving unit that receives a response mail ~~from the~~ returned in response to said confirmation mail ~~from said examinee terminal~~ responding to the inquiry mail;

a determining unit that records reception time at which ~~said the~~ the response mail is received and determines, based on said reception time, ~~a transmission order by~~ in which to transmit to ~~said examinee terminal~~ a pass/fail information address at which ~~said the~~ the pass/fail information is located is transmitted to the examinee terminal;

a monitoring unit that monitors load of the computer; and

a transmitting unit that transmits ~~said the~~ the pass/fail information address to examinee terminals of a predetermined number of ~~said examinee terminals~~ examinees including the examiner depending on ~~said the determined~~ transmission order by the determination unit and a the monitored load value ~~indicating a load on said computer.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The computer program as set forth in claim 7, wherein the transmitting unit transmits ~~said the~~ the pass/fail information address to the examinee terminals of the predetermined number of ~~examinee terminals~~ examinees ~~while~~ when the load value indicating ~~the load on said~~ of the ~~computer transmitting apparatus~~ is less than a predetermined value.

9. (Currently Amended) A computer readable recording medium storing a computer program that causes a computer to function as:

a transmitting unit that transmits an inquiry mail to ~~an the~~ the examinee terminal ~~used by an examinee~~ asking whether ~~said examinee requires~~ to require the pass/fail information ~~indicating whether said examinee has passed or failed an exam;~~

a receiving unit that receives a response mail from the examinee terminal ~~returned in response to said confirmation~~ responding to the inquiry ~~mail from said examinee terminal~~;

a determining unit that records reception time at which ~~said~~ the response mail is received and determines, based on said reception time, ~~a~~ transmission order by ~~in~~ which to ~~transmit to said examinee terminal~~ a pass/fail information address at which ~~said~~ the pass/fail information is located is transmitted to the examinee terminal;

a monitoring unit that monitors load of the computer; and

a transmitting unit that transmits ~~said~~ the pass/fail information address to examinee terminals of a predetermined number of said examinee terminals examinees including the examiner depending on ~~said~~ the determined transmission order by the determination unit and a the monitored load value indicating a load on said computer.

10. (Currently Amended) The computer readable recording medium as set forth in claim 9, wherein the transmitting unit transmits ~~said~~ the pass/fail information address to the examinee terminals of the predetermined number of ~~examinee terminals~~ examinees while when the load value ~~indicating the load on said~~ of the transmitting apparatus ~~computer~~ is less than a predetermined value.